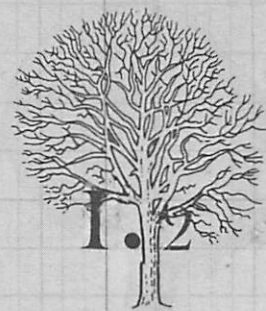


ACORN



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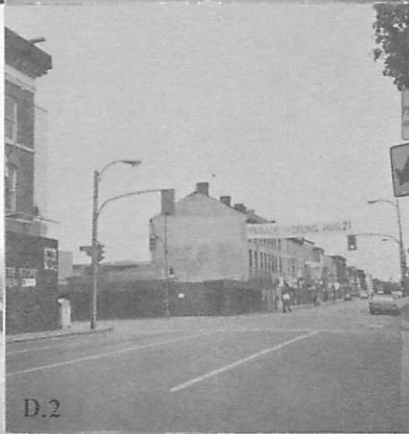
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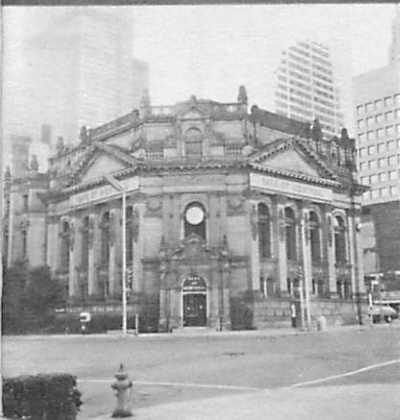
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F.1



F.2



F.3

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario R Newsletter

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(Ed. Note: We leave the "R" unadorned in this issue awaiting Gil Simmons' further constructive comment).

Our aim was to publish this somewhat earlier, but getting it to press has taken longer than expected. Therefore our apologies for overshooting interesting events you would have liked us to mention in the future tense.

Again many thanks for your contributions and we look forward to your continuing help and interest. Please note the next deadline at the end of this newsletter.

We wish to express our great appreciation to Mrs. Kathleen Courtney who again has worn her fingers typing this for your printer and will be dizzy interpreting all our hands and may feel ready to retire to read fortunes by easier means.

Particular thanks go to Marion Walker Garland for her assistance in preparing the Balance Sheet. We may both need baling out if our present banks close their doors to us, but hope that honesty as the best policy will after all prevail. Marion will continue to collect material for her magnum opus on the bank question and would welcome any additional material which comes to mind. Her address is 86 Augusta Street, Port Hope, Ontario. Please note, carefully, whether you consider the bank's action a credit or a debit.

IN PASSING:

The tribute to James H. Acland, FRAIC, who died on 22nd June 1976, prepared for the Friends of Old City Hall is a fitting accolade to that faithful retainer of preservation. We join in expressions of sympathy to his family, while realizing that many monuments survive around us because of his efforts and many people have been stimulated to do likewise by his enthusiasm and response. May we quote at length from John McFarland's farewell?

FRIENDS OF OLD CITY HALL:

When we first learned that Jim Acland had died on June 22nd, it seemed almost impossible to write a farewell note for the Friends of Old City Hall. Our innumerable memories

are so warm, so real, so pleasant, that this is not the moment to express sorrow alone.

The thoughts are not of James Acland of the School of Architecture, or of a President of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. They are of Jim Acland whose powerful voice stirred Friends of Old City Hall to fight on optimistically month after month.

We see Jim, the actor, pretending to find the role of Chairman at our meetings a complicated chore. Not so. He really loved the special rapport he had with the Friends.

No one could complain as vigorously, and occasionally, as colourfully, about demands on his time. But he never failed to read over letters or briefs and carefully correct, re-phrase, or even re-write them despite his many other commitments.

How many times did our telephones melt when we asked for a format for a leaflet, or a drawing for a poster? Yet within hours he would prepare and present the drafts for acceptance with the words "By God, that looks pretty good, doesn't it?"

His imagination never failed to proffer unique ideas: Bagpipes piping in the Friends at every meeting, or setting up a room in Old City Hall to display True Davidson's hats.

We have a vivid picture of one mock parliament session at Bloor Street United Church ... Jim Acland eloquently, humorously, and dramatically debating in favour of preserving Toronto's Old City Hall. His shoulders are hunched, eyes are glinting devilishly and he is enjoying every minute.

Picture Jim Acland in the early '60's speaking against the Spadina Expressway, in the mid-'60s against Eaton's Centre, into the '70s against Metro Centre. Were there any larger projects to attack?

September 18, 1975 - two of Toronto's most interesting personalities, dressed in period costume for the plaquing ceremony at Old City Hall. True Davidson and Jim Acland performing in great style, improvising a skit about the past.

No organization has had more outstanding leaders, John Leitch, John Caulfield Smith and James Acland. Each has made an impact on us all.

No, we won't mourn. Instead we will savour our happy memories. We will think of Jim, the blustering bear, who meekly accepted rebuke, the intrepid fighter who looked to "his team" to "call out the troops", the charmer who shared his exuberance for all things with us.

He has been a good Friend.

NOTHING IS FAIRER THAN A ROSE NOR SORRIER THAN A SCOTCH THISTLE LIVING BESIDE A DEAD ROSE BUSH'

So was the prospect which greeted us in the abandoned greenhouses of the Dale Estate (latterly Cal-Dale Estate Limited) in Brampton recently. Acres of glass houses, once the pride of the town and known across Canada for the famous Dale autographed roses are no more, the result of changing fortunes perhaps or fortune's changes. Gradually the whole plant, the houses hundreds of feet long and once covering thirty-five acres stocked with thousands of rose bushes, some set out as late as January 1975, and most now dead, the odd one lingering below a broken light, miles of

heating pipes, and yards of planting beds are gradually being dismantled. Another piece of history disappears and somehow the pathos of the whole affair is sad upon reflection, the dozens of people put out of work, the millions of roses and other blooms grown and enjoyed if only briefly but long a memory, the industry once the pride of a small county town and now shattered like the glass in its slowly disappearing houses.

Brampton is now a growing city of 89,000 souls, no longer famous for its roses, no longer known as the flower town, but with a spanking new bank on each of its old four corners, like lbrash purple thistles among the dying rose-bushes. Give us back the flowers, and the old county town, the Brampton of before, or maybe change its name that we might forget it and the shimmering shroud to all those glorious blooms. Peelville or Davistown has been suggested.

PJS

A PLAQUE OR COMMORATIVE MARKER for Ontario's old buildings of merit, particularly architectural, is again being discussed by the ACO Council. Some ideas have come forward and one design is taking shape. Should this be unacceptable for submission to the branches we shall be initiating a competition shortly to establish an appropriate symbol. Conditions will be announced should the competition be held.

Robert A. Laidlaw, a founder and honorary life member of ACO died recently in Toronto. During his lifetime he contributed much to the cultural life and activities of the community and was always a great supporter of the conservation movement.

To enjoy our Balance Sheet further open out this issue of Acorn to see the other side of the coin on the back cover.

THE BALANCE SHEET:

The cover illustrates fairly, we believe, the current state of affairs in conservation practised by some of our largest corporations, the financial institutions of this country, which we depend on, and which are so dependent on our well-being and stability. Not only is their responsibility substantial, but their investment in this country's people, commerce and affairs is their material success. What appears to be lacking as an antidote is their interest in our cultural heritage, which believe it or not, they have helped to produce, and their seeming disregard in too many cases of our sense of continuity where life in Canada is generally an uninterrupted thread from the early, yet so recent, settlement of the land by colonists from many places. Manifestations of that continuity survive in many smaller communities throughout Ontario, but the larger cities have lost a great deal especially in the last quarter century.

But it was not always so, and need not always be so. While there are good and bad examples of corporate behaviour in the visual world, the score is unpredictable and often incomprehensible - even a worm can turn, in either direction! However, a gradual awareness is creeping into the financial towers, usually by the sheer doggedness of local community action or forcefully critical yet constructive comment to the right people (who do, we know, still run our financial insti-

tutions). Since the main corners of our communities are the magnetic sites for banks it stands to reason to expect their best effort towards architectural expression, to be inviting (they want - and need - your money, not to mention the great interest you may pay them from time to time), to be impressive and, more of late, up-to-date to scoop you, mercilessly, into the jet age of computers and gathering inhumanity, effortless and comfortable as it may feel, damnably expensive as it proves. But for all that it's too often to hell with the setting, and sympathetic infilling or compatible building are generally not on their books.

Is the tide turning, or has any flood been taken to lead to our good fortune, architectrally that is? The answer to the first we still await, though recent signs are encouraging, and the second has historic precedents. Witness for instance the fine bank buildings across the province from the late 1850's to the 1870's, such as the Bank of Upper Canada, c.1859 in Port Hope (surviving because it became a dairy!), its counterpart in Perth now part of a church complex or the many Bank of Montreal buildings erected in the 1860's. And here is our first step into abysmal gloom. Do you remember the handsome building on a corner of Court House Square in Brockville? Fit as a complement to John Howard's Courthouse, the churches and the older buildings of this small city: torn down in the 1960's! and replaced with the up-to-date. Or that bank's Bowmanville branch of 1866 graciously set back from the main corner and the largest building in town. Impressive - and with its fine plasterwork and interesting manager's quarters of two storeys above the banking hall, typical of the genre: torn down in the 1970's after replacement by the smallest building in town, jammed on the corner, its grave marked by a parking lot - what an epitaph! Or Guelph, St. George's Square, that visual and architectural disaster, perhaps the classic case of townscape decay, where in spite of the consultant architect's recommendation for preservation a glazed box (heavily curtained to keep out the glare!) tries to make the best of a bad job while next door the old Royal Bank branch, of the late 1870's or early 80's and the last to go in its conversion to a Trust Company office, is purported to be in sympathy by the novel device of a glowering brow of its predecessor's regurgitated stonework set upon toothpick concrete columns seeming to prop its sad eyes open. Yet at Front and Yonge the Bank of Montreal has agreed to the designation of its 1885 splendour by the City of Toronto and that fascinating landmark has been saved. Not before, of course, stepping with pomp and circumstance into a new building, not a little fake, in one of the province's most historic towns. What does this augur for the future?

The Royal Bank has pulled some odd tricks too, on occasion, such as its jumping out of the fat in a handsome stone building in Bath into a hot new little number perched askew a green sward, hardly to be considered appropriate to that historic village. We also wonder why the same bank perpetrated the crime in Fergus to compound the catastrophe by leaving a tantalizing morsel of the far tastier old cheese still dangling beside its new mousetrap. But the Royal Bank, while not always hewing to the historic line has some remarkable conversions, often quite sympathetic, to its credit such as the branch on the main street of St. Mary's or the delightful preservation coming closer to our expectations, in Odessa..

Their treatment of the 1871 Opera House in Port Hope is to be commended and we would look forward to their making more of the elaborate brickwork by implementing a scheme suggested in the Walton street Study.

In Port Hope we well remember the Premises Department of the Bank of Nova Scotia carefully considering its newly proposed branch there in the late 1940's and anxiously discussing at length the best way to create a front appropriate to that handsome main street, Walton, within their means of course. The result was dignified, and not as easily dated as some more outlandish schemes. But this tradition apparently has been lost and their clandestine treatment of the Mowat Block affair is rather a blot on their escutcheon, not to mention a sad blow to Kingston's excellent efforts at preservation. Moreover, the inane sketch of a curved corner to simulate the form of that lost landmark simply added insult to injury, in our opinion. For the essential quality of the old block was its compatibility with perhaps the most complete remaining streetscape of Princess, and this meant detailed elements also of fenestration, cornices and the like, not just a corner bullnosed.

Port Hope seems to be not only a cause for congratulations, three tries out of four have been relatively successful there, but the fourth is a calamity beyond compare, namely the Toronto-Dominion Bank which tore down a four storey mid-19th century block, with the local tradition of a rounded corner, at one of its main intersections and replaced it in the 1950's with a totally irrelevant and desperately rude intrusion of two storeys in grim red brick, glass and green panels capped with a clumsy cornice. Today the story might have been different for this now is a worm much more friendly to preservation as illustrated by their attention to an early 20th century temple of finance on Yonge Street opposite Eaton's in Toronto. Also the TD is the last bank to occupy an older building on Wyndham, Guelph's main street and has been persuaded (we suggested that a bank, finally, had been intimidated) to maintain its sympathetic renovation of the early 1960's and perhaps to restore some essential detail such as the original pattern to sash of the second floor. The last renovation undid a monstrous previous conversion, anything but good-looking and definitely inappropriate to the building, which has been recorded and, we hope, will be laid to rest in the bank's dead files. There are other memories like the loss of a handsome mid-19th century block at the corner of Wellington and Church in Toronto, compensated for in some degree by the retention of their old Dominion Bank Head Office at King and Yonge. The saddest loss of recent years was the demolition of Carrere and Hastings design, the Head Office of the Bank of Toronto, 1911, at the south-west corner of Bay and King. What a splendid foil the TD towers would have made; and what a glorious relief this posh reminder of the era of the bank temple would have been to the Centre. Ironic, we feel, that the new glass box is roughly its equivalent in size: the old bank could easily have been moved and refaced on its inner façades.

This leaves only one of the five major friends - or culprits - whichever way you wish to look at it, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, which for start-

ers did preserve its Darling and Pearson "early tallest" in the Commerce Court complex. Of late the Commerce had some notable achievements to its credit, such as its assumption of the c.1840 Bank of Upper Canada building in the Ridout Street complex in London. In Niagara-on-the-Lake, largely from informed comment reaching the top, and filtering down (it still does occasionally), their branch in an 1895 building turned from an earlier 20th century scheme (stoned, plate-glassed and transomed) to a design still related to the plate glass era, yet signifying something new and meeting their needs. Thus, peradventure, a possible crime was averted, namely another instance of a "paneful" front, although it must be acknowledged, the divisions would have been for real. We wonder at this juncture how the Commerce will treat its branch in Port Hope in the future: until now it has been reasonably sympathetic to its rounded corner building (except for the protrusion of a two way sign) and upper window sash survive, this despite vacancy. There is anxiety in local hearts, especially after the demolition of the building which helped to frame Cobourg's Victoria Hall took place not many years ago despite strong local support for its retention.

Other financial institutions, of course, are not far behind: the story of trust companies is roughly parallel. In Guelph, Canada Trust Huron and Erie occupies a handsome old stone corner block and keeps it in good trim. We have alluded already to the trust company replacing the Royal Bank in that city. In Kingston stands the Empire Life Head Office building incorporating the old Commercial Bank of 1853, with a sympathetic addition made many years ago beside it and very much the pride of the company. Victoria and Grey preserved one of George Browne's commercial blocks, with the familiar trick of that architect - the rounded corner, to excellent effect, also in the city, while in another small Ontario town the same institution embroidered a neat mid-19th century façade, needing only restoration of its sash and shutters, with new orioles (nobody has supplied the gilded cages or canaries within) and replaced, believe it or not, the original entrance doorcase with a modern interpretation falling far short of the authentic mark. The Brampton example is an extension of the four corners malady so prevalent in Canada generally, and in Ontario particularly.

The bank's record in preservation is not outstanding. Some have been relatively active, and see the possibilities obviously, others appear indifferent and, on occasion, definitely hostile. We, as preservationists, are conscious of the part buildings play in our heritage and the importance older buildings are to that feeling of continuity which contributes to stability and an ability to cope with change by a judgment unimpaired by stress, of which the visual kind cannot be underestimated. It would be rewarding to see the banks respect the continuity of our communities, to be the leaders in more than money, and take their place politely beside what is already there. It is not only a concern for preservation, but also a matter of manners.

(The ACO takes no part in its editor's expression of opinions even though it may share them).

Jim Usher, life-long resident of old Niagara and for many years a member of ACO died 3 August, 1976. Jim will be remembered by many as the realtor who for so long actively encouraged the preservation of early buildings in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The financial campaign is reported to be doing well owing to the organization and effort of our Vice-President Ken Clarke and staff. However, Ken needs the help of all Branches in following up his leads. Many thanks Ken: we hope you let us in on your secret of success - beyond persistence and hard work, that is.

NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST:

A few more groups with similar interests and affiliates in like causes have joined us and our loyalty to preservation prompts us to include them within our orbit. Their continued contribution of material is welcomed, their support always appreciated.

OTTAWA:

HERITAGE OTTAWA is an active group arising from diverse elements with a common cause in preservation in the National Capital Region and elsewhere. No doubt members of the ACO Ottawa Branch now shelter below its larger tent.

President of Heritage Ottawa is Martin Weil, the address P.O. Box 510, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario, telephone (613) 745-0551. Our Bill Keenan, now working on the Rideau Canal buildings, is an active member.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 17 May 1976. Activities and events of interest are covered in regularly published newsletters issued every month. (No doubt you can obtain copies from the address mentioned above). As mentioned in their 7 May, 1976 Newsletter - "Projects include efforts to promote the conservation of our architectural heritage, to raise money to support these efforts, and other activities for the enjoyment and education of our members and others" - and ends with a plea for continued assistance of members. (Such is the prerequisite for success in preservation; it was never otherwise.).

A tour of Aylmer and Lucerne on the Quebec side of the Ottawa was conducted by the Aylmer Historical Society on 19 June, 1976. The Annual General Meeting was accompanied by a talk given by John Stewart, Period Landscape Architect, the subject - Original Landscape Plans for Parliament Hill. An exhibit of the work of W.E. Noffke, FRAIC (1878 - 1964) was held in the Fraser Schoolhouse, 62 John Street, Ottawa, (ie. in New Edinburgh) from 16 May to 27 June, 1976. Noffke was responsible for several Ottawa public buildings, churches, commercial buildings as well as many houses in the Ottawa area.

Promotion includes liaison with the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada to present a brief to the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada at the RAIC Annual Meeting 17 - 20 May 1976 concerning the preservation of architects' records. (Good luck, for so much valuable material has been needlessly destroyed in the past). Stuart Lazear was looking for help to put together audio-visual kits on heritage subjects, such kits to be made available to schools if interested. (Another breakthrough is possible there).. Booths were to be set up in two local shopping centres where publications could be sold and information given out.

Conservation hints were the subject of five lectures sponsored by Heritage Ottawa and the Sandy Hill Heritage Committee in May and June, the first with nearly 400 people attending. Topics included Problems with Exteriors (Martin Weaver), Renovation and Neighbourhood Compatibility (Edward MacFarlane), The Process of Interior Renovation (Brian Wiles), A Detailed Review of Interior Renovation (Nigel Hutchins and Gerry White) and concluded with a question and answer session. (Five sessions is but an introduction to an enormous subject, but let's hope over-confidence was reduced at least to inquisitive sympathy if not humility).

Good and bad news comes close together. The City of Ottawa applied to the OMB for approval of By-law 247-75 concerning the Centretown Plan to foster the retention and redevelopment (presumably sympathetic) of a predominantly residential neighbourhood in the inner city area. Previously news of the destruction of part of Besserer Street and Rideau not included in the Sandy Hill Study indicated that three of the five structures to be demolished were considered of heritage value, and a twenty-seven storey office tower will usurp their place, another insidious nibble at the old Ottawa cheese.

Other interesting activities worthy of emulation are the taped recollections of older Ottawa citizens, exhibitions in the gallery of the Fraser Schoolhouse and talks by local practitioners in preservations such as John Leaning and future participants (it is hoped), namely students in the School of Architecture from Carleton University, regarding imaginative adaptive use of older buildings.

All this and much of interest in past history (before Acorn 1-1) shows the health and wealth of activity now in the Ottawa area where the citizens in growing concert are keeping conservation alive.

KINGSTON:

The Frontenac Historic Foundation pledged to the preservation of older buildings in the Kingston area is another very active group with aims akin to those of ACO. So here is some news of their activities gleaned in this case from past history.

Early in the year those very enjoyable rambles through Victorian buildings conducted by Sir John Betjeman and filmed by the BBC were shown. (These are excellent for repeat performances and many curtain calls). Several courses, including practical hints on building preservation such as Practical Restoration of an Old House by Douglas Snyder and related topics, Antiques and Collectibles (Mrs. K. Spooner), The Buildings and Homes of Kingston and Area (Jennifer McKendry) and Antiques (also by Jennifer McKendry and principally emphasizing Canadiana).

Queen's University, we are told, has taken steps to evaluate its older non-academic buildings. Editorial comment from the Frontenac Historic Foundation Newsletter (Vol. 3, No. 4) notes that this is late in coming, and although it is to be commended as a step in the right direction (the Interim Subcommittee formed to advise on preservations of older structures to the Campus Planning Committee) much of the damage has

been done already. With shrinking university enrollments the suggestion is that this might have been avoided had study been initiated earlier. (It's an old story.).

A fascinating column initialled C.O.P. (Crime of Passion?) reflects on the grizzly facts facing those supporting preservation like the Teron of the trade who came to preach about good urban planning after seeing to the demise of Counter's early waterfront buildings and leaving a vacant lot - for the next Tricentennial? Also the protest regarding the demolition of the Mowat Block (successful in more than demonstrating local anger - see the Balance Sheet), gains popular support in Montreal where a similar memorial march took place.

There are reports of preservation activities locally, for example, sympathetic rejuvenation of exteriors, explanations of renovations and not one, but two, tributes to banks in passing. (The last are not always the villains it seems).

The Foundation was also involved in setting up a list of members experienced in their own projects of conservation who might contribute to an advisory service. This was to be supplemented by lists of professional consultants and architects as well as craftsmen skilled in restoration from the area. (All power to them, but from personal experience humility and a willingness to learn are additional requirements for all concerned in the preservation business. In other words the last solution can seldom, if ever, be applied to the next problem.).

Finally do not forget the Kingston Symposium: New Life for Old Buildings, sponsored jointly by the Frontenac Historic Foundation, Heritage Canada and the Ontario Heritage Foundation, 9 - 12 September 1976, to be held at the Donald Gordon Centre for Continuing Education, Queen's University (beside Roselawn, 1841). An exhibition from 15 August to 3 October entitled Decline and Fall - The Architecture of Kingston and Frontenac County, will be at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre on the Queen's Campus.

The Frontenac Historic Foundation, P.O. Box 27, Kingston, Ontario has Sylvia Spasoff and Susan Thorne as editors of its newsletter.

COBOURG:

Cobourg, although not officially with an ACO branch, (maybe partly over-shadowed by Port Hope's OAK) shows great activity in promoting Historic House Tours (see Coming Events), the Women's Committee of the Society for the Restoration of Victoria Hall devoting funds raised from such events to that building. Financial support for the project is still needed: Phase 3 including the magnificent painted Concert Hall and second floor space in the building still has to be started while Phase 2 is likely to see to partial occupancy by the end of this year. Structural rehabilitation and renewal with drastic improvement of services have been costly, but should see to the continued enjoyment of that majestic building. (All contributions gratefully received at the Society for the Restoration of Victoria Hall, 55 King Street West, Cobourg, Ontario, tax receipts available).

PORT HOPE:

An enjoyable gathering of the ACO Council, ACORN editorial committee and the Port Hope Branch was held on Saturday 8 May, 1976. Marion Garland invited the ACORN group to lunch, Ann Stokes helping with the food. It was business with much pleasure. Then a tour of Port Hope and the Council meeting culminating in a splendid feast at Sorabrook, the Sculthorpe farmhouse at Port Britain with A.K. and Robert officiating. A most enjoyable way for the Council to get around to the Branches and have some fun, well worth spending most of the day seeing new faces and exploring new places. Port Hope Branch - many thanks. (And here's looking forward to more of the same in the coming ACO year!)

A film series, Civilization, by Sir. Kenneth Clarke was shown every week at Trinity College School (TCS) starting in April and proved of interest locally.

ACO Port Hope Branch and the Port Hope Consortium (with some members wearing both hats) were promoting a street lighting scheme to supplement the new, and very successful, high bay illumination of Walton Street, the main shopping street. The idea was to create a pattern related to people to augment and soften the brilliance of the main scheme and to bring scale back to the street. A public opinion poll based on sketches in the local newspaper drew the response of two to one for nostalgia, that is lanterns of period design versus good contemporary fixtures. Shortly demonstration in the round will see examples of both schools of thought set up on Walton Street for comparison.

The Advisory service was initiated by the Port Hope Branch, but more publicity and perhaps a more favourable local preservation climate would stimulate more activity. Speaking of climate the Town of Port Hope, despite offers of assistance from the Branch and the Consortium, has not established a Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC). This strange reserve in one of the greatest preserves of the Province's architectural heritage (Niagara-on-the-Lake, Port Hope and Perth - Ontario's three most historic towns) is hard to understand from previous experience. (Maybe reaction will come about, and elections always have a way of demonstrating local response, so conservationists get out and vote!).

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch is planned for 8.00 p.m., 14 September 1976, Penryn Park. More news of the outcome and activities planned for the coming year in Acorn 1-3.

TORONTO:

From Toronto Itself:

A report on the Massey Hall proposal as it affected the CP Express Building has been prepared and is to be sent out to Branch members.

On Saturday 25th September, 1976 a tour northwards on old Yonge Street through Thornhill and past Newmarket to include early churches, a house or two along the way, is planned to end at that superlative monument, Sharon Temple.

A review of the Rosedale Study, in cooperation with the Rosedale Rate-payers Association, accompanied by displays, photographs and walking tours is to be presented to the people of the area on Saturday 23rd October, 1976. Then from further afield, where the grass should be greener:

A principal purpose in 1932 for organizing the Architectural Conservancy was "to protect Ontario's places of natural beauty". The historical Grand River Valley undoubtedly qualifies for this designation. Two separate projects involving the Grand River "Conservation" Authority (GRCA) threaten this valley in Wellington County. The proposed bridge over the Grand River at Elora is an issue that has been moving towards an impending and final decision over the past three years. Now a second major concern, a dam downstream from the bridge is shaping up into another battle royal. An unique natural resource, the Elora Gorge is jeopardized in either conflict.

Examine a map of Wellington County and you see that County Road #7 veers off from Highway #6 between Guelph and Fergus to go through Elora and Alma. It meets Highway #9 a few miles west of the junction of Highways #6 and #9. Despite the fact it is maintained as an alternate route to the Bruce Peninsula Region it has gained a relatively heavy traffic load. County Road #7 runs straight to the east, following the main street through the Town, and 1½ miles beyond resumes the direct route north. Thus the present diversion has avoided the Elora Gorge. It is conceivable that new and necessary construction could include a road of greater arc through the country east or west of the two mile gorge. Such a road could avoid the gorge and alleviate Elora's problem of excess through-traffic. The proposed bridge solves Elora's traffic problem; however, its absolute reverence to a county's dogmatic grid line will spoil the Gorge. It would bridge the gorge itself and cross through GRCA parkland. Therefore the controversy.

The county contends the proposed location is the most direct and economical. The road would run through what is presently the edge of the town. The bridge would cross 150 feet west of the confluence of the Irvine and Grand Rivers, at Lookout Point, where the limestone gorge is at its deepest and is most scenic. In order to build the one million dollar bridge it will be necessary for the GRCA to sell the county a 100 foot wide strip of land on each side of the gorge. Several environmental groups including Pollution Probe and the Environmental Law Association took up the cause of those opposing the location of the construction for aesthetic and environmental reasons. Eighty thousand dollars has already been spent by the county on preliminary design and surveys.

MPP Mac Makarchuk of Brantford and Kitchener Alderman Morley Rosenberg as private citizens sought an injunction before the Ontario Supreme Court to stop the project. Three arguments were presented. They questioned whether GRCA has jurisdiction to transfer the 100 foot right-of-way to the county (at a cost of one dollar) for a purpose other than conservation. They contended that the bridge will have a detrimental impact on the natural beauty of the gorge. They charged that no alternative routes were considered for reconstruct-

ing County Road #7 away from the gorge park. However, they lost the case on the grounds that they themselves are members of the GRCA board and therefore are not entitled to seek an injunction against the decision of the majority of the authority. (At a July meeting in 1974 there was a clear majority 23-8, but at a second vote in June 1975 the vote of GRCA Chairman James Bauer in favour of the bridge broke a tie).

The two men took the matter to the Ontario Court of Appeal this May. They contended the land transfer for the bridge ignores ecological considerations and the authority is acting beyond its powers when it transfers land to improve a traffic situation in a town. They cited the Conservation Authority Act which states that the GRCA is required to conserve land and make it more attractive. GRCA maintained they are demonstrating a conservationist policy by allowing the bridge to be built 150 feet from Lookout Point since the county does own land and could build the bridge 70 feet from the point. The Appeal Court has upheld the Supreme Court decision and assessed the men with court costs which could amount to \$40,000.

Their intention is to take the next step and go to the Supreme Court of Canada. To do this divides the Gorge dispute into two separate issues, the one ecological and the other legal. In an article in the Globe and Mail May 27th, 1976 John Swagen, counsel to the Canadian Environmental Association explains how the legal question of "standing" is involved here. The doctrine of "locus standi" until recently was a debate confined to the academics of the legal profession. But it has become even more confusing since decisions have been made recently both "for" and "against" private persons who have sued a corporation or a government agency in cases similar to that of the Gorge.

According to the strict letter of the law a private person does not have "standing" to sue unless he can show that he, personally, is suffering damage that is greater than the damage suffered by all other members of the general public. Only the Attorney-General, as the guardian of the public interest and the Crown's chief legal officer, may sue to redress wrongs which affect the public as a whole or segments of it (Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Makarchuk could be interpreted as private persons representing the segment of the public opposing the bridge). The "standing" law protects the court from unfounded law suits introduced for purposes of harassment or delay.

In theory the Attorney-General has a special interest in such cases where the general public's interests might benefit. But he can choose to ignore the request, as he did in 1972 when the sand dunes near Picton were being destroyed by a cement company. If GRCA is breaking the law, this wrong could go without redress if the Attorney-General does not recognize Mr. Rosenberg's and Mr. Makarchuk's right to sue because of the "standing" issue. Mr. Swagen argues in his article "Let the People Sue" that the Government should grant the public access to the courts to insure that government agencies, such as GRCA remain within their powers when making decisions.

So that is where the matter stands at the moment. The Ontario Court of Appeal has ruled that "members of a conservation authority do not have standing to challenge the authority's decisions unless they have "a pecuniary or proprietary interest in preventing the deterioration of the gorge". The next move depends on the Attorney-General. If he allows the men to approach the Supreme Court of Canada through him it could not be before spring 1977 at the earliest. Meantime the Elora Reeve charges that Mr. Rosenberg and Mr. Makarchuk are using obstructionist and delaying tactics while bridge construction costs mount steadily.

Despite the Court decision apparently the project would still have to be approved by the Ontario Cabinet and the Ontario Municipal Board which must allow a zoning change in the official plan. One feels uneasy if the decision is to rest with provincial officials. Three years ago I approached three government officials, and their viewpoints were not encouraging. Hon. Leo Bernier stated in a letter that he had complete trust in the judgment of the GRCA staff. I was not allowed to talk to him personally but was ushered into the office of the Government Supervisor for the Ontario Conservation Authorities. He told me that the bridge was strictly a county matter and the province would be usurping the county's authority to interfere in such a decision. I spent an illuminating half-hour in Mr. Harry Warton's office, MPP for Wellington South. I suggested to him that we have an obligation to protect natural resources such as the gorge for future generations. I also indicated my concern that an alternate route to avoid the gorge had not been investigated. I was berated for making such an irresponsible proposal - he would never have a part of any decision in which he was asked to destroy his constituents farmland!

The stand that this elected government representative took, - that our farmland must be protected from road encroachment, - seems a good starting point to explain the second issue in which the County of Wellington is embroiled. GRCA claim they require approximately 4000 acres of the Grand River Valley in Pilkington Township to implement the project. The road along this portion of the river was touted as "the scenic route to Kitchener" a few years ago.

As far back as 1971 Mrs. G. W. Loney who lives near the river wrote a protesting letter to the Toronto Telegram concerning the proposed dam plans. She cited the reasons given for the dam's necessity to be "flood control and to keep the effluent moving". A "Stop the Dam Committee" is in the process of being incorporated (June 15). In its first newsletter it maintains "another dam would not provide flood control the way the present dams are managed. A more positive solution would be the building of dykes and channel works in flood plain areas. To update sewage systems and stop industry from polluting the rivers would be better than to simply add water in times of low flow". But reasons for the dam seem to shift emphasis over the years.

Recently another major reason for dam construction has taken precedence in newspaper reports. It concerns the future water supply for the Region of Waterloo. A pipeline from the Great Lakes will have to be the long term solution to this problem and to build it now would prevent increasing costs as a result of a time delay. But Waterloo Region turned down the pipeline in 1974. The Region believes that if the dam is built it could manage without the pipeline

until the year 2000 - less than twenty-five years. For this short term solution to Waterloo Region's water problems, Pilkington Township suffers by losing farming acreage and being split in two.

Another excuse the GRCA could use for the dam is that it would provide a recreational area for the public. However, within an 18 mile radius of Elora there are no less than three artificial lakes on the Grand River and its tributaries. They are Belwood, Conestoga and the \$15 million GRCA reservoir and park being opened this June on the Speed River at the northern edge of Guelph. Expropriation here has provided a 3000 acre park and 940 acre lake. Belwood and Conestoga also have park and boating facilities. Surely this area of the Grand River Valley has contributed its share towards Southern Ontario's recreational needs!

Pilkington Township will lose 3800 acres of prime agricultural land (we musn't use land for road allowance, remember!) 225 people will have to relocate and 75 buildings will be demolished. The small village of Inverhaugh will disappear just as the village of Hallen disappeared in 1947 when the Conestoga Dam was built. Also affected is an Estonian community which has an extensive campground in the area. A much smaller section of Woolwich Township, including West Montrose of "covered bridge" fame is also to be involved, but the Woolwich Township Council is not supporting the "Stop the Dam Committee" as yet. (The Woolwich Mayor is a member of GRCA). However, Pilkington Council is wholly behind the Committee. Its Reeve states that it is ironic that his township has worked to save the area for agricultural purposes yet because other areas haven't pursued restricted growth policies eg. Waterloo Region, his residents will suffer.

The GRCA is required to buy park land but many do not realize it has the power to acquire by purchase, lease or expropriation and they may require for water management. Although the dam's future is yet uncertain the GRCA is buying land and it is a known fact in the area that GRCA will not be outbid (eg. one 60 acre farm was sold recently for \$100,000). The Reeve charges that GRCA is using "a form of expropriation" since a farmer can't compete financially in the bidding. Provincial funding has been forthcoming for buying up land by the authority. So far 970 of the 4000 acreage has been acquired. One fears that the dam may soon be an irrevocable commitment even before the GRCA gains the right to expropriate.

The Committee is hopeful that its struggle will be as successful as that fought over the Ayr dam. Their protest committee forstalled 5500 acres from being inundated, and they are offering advice as to procedures that proved to be effective in this instance.

Naturalists and ecologists claim the lake will affect the Gorge itself. The back up of water in the Gorge would depend on different factors but they agree that it could be as high as 22 feet at peak water. When does a Gorge stop being a Gorge?

The GRCA has set up an Advisory Committee, often voluntary members. They find this hot potato has fallen into their lap and they are being asked to prepare a report assessing the impact of the dam, presumably to counterbalance a technical report being prepared by an engineering firm.. Setting up the Advisory Committee, Mr. D. Ratz (Co-chairman of the "Stop the Dam Committee") says, was a

commendable step on the part of GRCA. However, he warns that it is possible GRCA is just using it to appease the public and has no intention of listening to its recommendations. He believes that many of the possible alternatives to the dam are not being presented to the Advisory Committee.

Both these issues receive considerable newspaper coverage and merit, I believe, our attention and active concern and support.

\$1.00 will put you on a mailing list to receive current information on "Stop the Dam" continually. Write Mrs. Theresa Bruder, Secretary "Stop the Dam Committee", R.R. #1, Ariss, Ontario.

The Canadian Environmental Law Association will be making a public appeal to obtain funds for court costs involved in Mr. Markachuk's and Mr. Rosenberg's valiant (depending on your point of view!) battle.

Carolyn Neal

HAMILTON:

(The Hamilton Branch, we have been told, is very much alive, but has not had an opportunity to get anything to us in pen, ink or carbon. We know that Sandyford Place has been taken over by the City and is currently under study to determine the essential details for restoration of the three terrace houses as well as to outline proposals for their general treatment and rehabilitation for prospective inhabitants. Hamilton is girding its loins for the coming APT (Association for Preservation Technology) annual conference 29 September to 3 October. Members of the Branch executive have attended Council meetings from time to time to keep abreast of current events elsewhere. Apparently information is being gathered (and we presume all contributions would be much appreciated) on local architects and builders involved in Hamilton's 19th and early 20th century development. Ed.)

CAMBRIDGE:

Heritage Cambridge has acquired a new symbol which we intend to use, not only on our stationery and newsletters, but as a distinguishing mark for all publications. It was devised for us by Glenn Fretz, the graphic artist who has designed a format suitable for many different things we hope to publish. The symbol is formed of interlocking "C"s, for Cambridge, enclosing an "H", for heritage. The overall form recalls a design often found in old church architecture, and also in somewhat floral in shape to symbolize our interest in natural beauty.



We have introduced our first publication to the public. It is a "Walking Tour of Downtown Cambridge". It is available at the City Hall and several other outlets. Having begun with the smallest of our proposed works, we will soon have a much larger "Driving Tour" ready, and expect to follow that with a pamphlet on the stone architecture of this area.. Gordon Couling, from Guelph, the noted authority on this type of construction, is working on this.

In the matter of our fight to stop the construction of a highrise near the river we have unfortunately had the OMB

decide against us. We are now in the process of taking our appeal to the Cabinet.

In May HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE held an all-day meeting. We met at the home of Pat and Ben Rosebrugh, a lovely place in the country. Cathy Smale from Simcoe, a City Councillor, Regional Councillor, and member of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, came to tell us about "Designation, the Process, Opportunities and Pitfalls". Then our Cambridge mayor, Robert J. Kerr, joined us to discuss several community matters. We had a delicious buffet lunch, which we were able to eat outdoors in the garden filled with spring blossoms. Then we discussed "Revolving Funds for Historic Preservation" aided tremendously by Dr. Grant Head and his wife, who have done such marvellous work in Hamilton. Their tales of good and bad experiences were very interesting and valuable. Graeme Consiglio, an architect and member of HC, reviewed some publications on the same subject. Our president, Gerry Musselman, rounded out the day with a summary of present projects and discussion of plans for the future.

Lucille Douglas

NOTES OF BANK INTEREST IN CAMBRIDGE:

In the old Galt centre in Cambridge the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce occupies one of our best old stone buildings. Known as the Commercial Building, it was built in 1850. The Bank of Commerce moved into the building in the 1860's, and it has been renovated and kept up in excellent style. Recently it was felt that the chimneys might have to be torn down, but the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce restored them instead. (Ed. note: perhaps from a precedent set in Niagara-on-the-Lake?).

Across the street, and also on the river bank, the former Toronto Dominion Bank building has been sold to the law firm of Thompson and Grant. They have retained the exterior of the building and remodelled the interior for their offices, thus preserving another good building on the river bank.

L.D.

LONDON:

"Woodfield Rambles", the third walking tour of the London Region Branch, was accompanied by perfect weather, and supported by a large number of enthusiasts.

Norwich House (1908), an Edwardian house smartly refurbished by the Norwich Union Insurance Society for office use, the Richard J. O'Loane House (1875), an Italianate double house, Teale Cottage (1872), the Samuel N. Sterling House (1904), an Edwardian mansion, the Robert MacLeod House (1875) in the Italianate style and the Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church (1873) of Gothic influence were open for viewing. Advance television publicity had included a walk and interview with Mr. Anthony Adamson and Mr. A.B.R. Lawrence, Chairman of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Among those attending were Mr. John McFarland, President of ACO and Mrs. McFarland.

Interesting that the area of the walk was, but recently, given the name "Woodfield" by the London City Council following a request by local citizens. The name came from the home built by Bishop Benjamin Cronyn in the 1830's, and

mentioned in "The Ancestral Roof". Originally named "The Pines", it was renamed "Woodfield" in 1892 by Hume Blake Cronyn and his bride Frances Amelia Labatt, after the name of the place in England where they became engaged. Unfortunately, the historic stone house no longer exists, but the area now bearing the name shows some promise of retaining its older architectural character.

Woodfield is one of four neighbourhoods of the Central London District; the others are: Piccadilly, Talbot, and Midtown. Presently a programme involving property owners and residents of the District is underway with the guidance of the City of London Planning Staff and the sixteen member Citizens Advisory Group (CAG).

The Planning Board newsletter begins thus: "This is your opportunity to become involved in the planning of your community ... During July and August the CAG and the Central London Planning Team will be developing preliminary policies and a draft land use plan for the District based on the needs and problems which have been identified". The draft plan will be viewed by City Departments, reviewed and subsequently recommended to the Planning Board. After publication and distribution to the citizens concerned, more public meetings will be held before the final proposals will be presented to the City Council. Already walking tours to appreciate the neighbourhoods have been conducted and impressions and comments recorded as part of this dynamic planning process. The completion of the plan is not expected until well into 1977. This is the second exercise conducted under the Planning Department and as the experience should show the conservation of the district is likely to be enhanced by such co-operation.

The Central London Newsletter No. 3 for June 1976 (produced by the Planning Division of the City of London Department of Community Services in Cooperation with the Central London CAG) identifies problems and concerns gleaned from a 43% return of 533 questionnaires to a random sample of households and 64% return of 241 questionnaires to a sample local businesses. These in the main read:

The preservation of buildings of architectural and historical value.

The lack of parks and open space.

The lack of grocery and convenience stores in some neighbourhoods.

Safety and accessibility to schools, shopping, parks and recreation facilities.

The threat of losing neighbourhood character; for example: trees, lawns, boulevards, older houses.

The compatibility of new development with existing residential areas.

Poor building and property maintenance in some areas.

The poor condition of some streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

Heavy traffic on residential streets.

Inadequate parking for stores, offices and apartments.

The noise and traffic congestion caused by CNR, CPR rail lines.

The lack of railway overpasses and underpasses for CNR, CPR tracks.

(Those underlined are directly related to the conservation of buildings and historic districts while all impinge on the

preservation of urban areas generally. No doubt you share similar concerns).

Sales of properties in the historic area to individuals who will reside in the houses being refurbished, restored, and maintained are increasing, a healthy sign. Significantly, four members of the London Public Library staff have recently purchased homes in the Piccadilly Neighbourhood.

The revitalization of older neighbourhoods so strongly rising in London today recalls the Premier's response a few years ago to a plea for help in conserving our heritage, namely that conservation greatly depends on individual enterprise. Fortunately such vitally needed support is growing in London too.

A real step forward in conservation occurred at a May OMB hearing regarding a seemingly small matter. A minor enlargement for increased office space in the coach-house of a splendid 1871 mansard-roofed mansion in Woodfield had not been approved by the Committee of Adjustment despite the owner's agreement to follow the style of the front gable in the rear roof and to use brick - as nearly matching as possible - instead of siding. However, at the hearing before the OMB a request that the architectural drawings for the proposed addition be submitted to the Conservation Committee of the City Council was approved and review of the proposal assured. Furthermore difficulties of meeting parking requirements have been overcome and an attractively landscaped berm has been devised to screen the lot so that the sweep of lawns fronting Queen's Avenue has been preserved.

Susan Wilson

London has also been concerned about utility needs: the North-east Central London Community Association called for citizen participation in the location of a new transformer substation for central London, some possible sites being in older neighbourhoods.

An article in the London Free Press for Saturday 7 March 1976 by Judy Malone is an interesting and extensive coverage of some of western Ontario's historic places with not only poignant references by Edwin Bennett of Woodstock to lost examples of our architectural heritage, but also to a significant point often forgotten, mentioned by Jim Anderson of Stratford who said "Really, as long as new buildings harmonize with old ones, I don't care how modern they are". Another historic community referred to is that boomtown founded on the first oil strikes in North America which was largely rebuilt in splendid late Victorian styles including Victoria Hall and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of the 1881's by the London architect, Durand.

Local preservation includes the restoration of the theatre in Victoria Hall by Howard V. Walker, Architect, and the Norwich Plan, a scheme for the enhancement of the main street under the direction of R.D. Irvine, Architect.

HURON COUNTY:

Introduction:

Since the formation of the Huron Branch in 1972,, membership has grown to 60 (paid up!) and the Branch has a well-established programme of meetings and visiting guest speakers. This year will be the record for an annual Newsletter of heritage news in Huron, due to come off the press

at the end of May. Much emphasis of the Branch recently has been put towards getting local municipalities to adopt heritage studies and policies in their official plans, the results of which are briefly outlined in this report.

Heritage District Plans:

Town of Goderich
Village of Bayfield

Huron County is a farming area comprising sixteen rural townships, five villages, five towns and a number of hamlets. The county was largely "built up" at the end of the 19th century, and most small settlements are characterized by a main street with a central business district of two and three storey commercial blocks, residential areas and a mill pond. Fortunately as "progress" has been slow in coming to Huron (progress in this sense meaning redevelopment of the built environment) there remains today a wealth of turn-of-the-century architecture. This is especially evident "downtown" where entire façades of commercial blocks, punctuated by post office or civic hall towers, can still be enjoyed. With the passing of the recent Ontario Heritage Act, two communities, Goderich and Bayfield are embarking upon Heritage District Plans to preserve and enhance their historic core areas.

Goderich is the oldest community in Huron and its core area is of a radial plan design. Eight streets radiate out from a central Court House Square. The plan and the resulting influence on building form is fascinating, with a mixture of five architectural façades and "focal point" buildings at the end of the radiating streets. The land use, visual and environmental composition is at once very rare and very vulnerable to insensitive development. The preparation of a Heritage District Plan is therefore timely and apt.

Bayfield, although only twelve miles south of Goderich is quite different in character and size. Originally a small fishing village, Bayfield is now a thriving tourist and retirement community and is the second oldest settlement in Huron and a Heritage District Study is being prepared for the main street which is beautifully treed and has some fine old hotels, stores and residences.

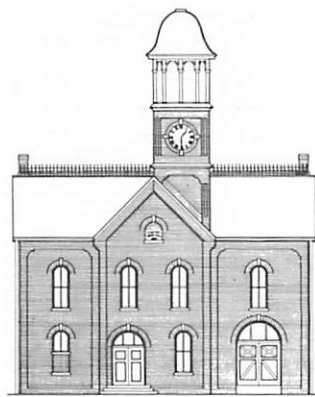
Both these heritage district plans are being jointly financed by the local municipalities and the Ministry of Housing. The heritage planning consultant is Nicholas Hill.

Heritage Building Surveys:

Township of Colborne
Township of Goderich

The rural building heritage of Huron comprises mainly farmhouses and farm buildings. This heritage is not of national significance in the way that the farmhouses are particularly unusual or unique. However they represent true vernacular building, built by craftsmen with material at hand and according to tradition. The "total" however is impressive - a working agricultural landscape, unspoiled, prosperous, carrying on in the manner it has for over 100 years.

With the preparation of official plans for the rural townships of Huron, the County Planning Department wishes to include the fine heritage farmhouses and buildings in the plans. Accordingly surveys are compiled, usually of about 25 buildings in each township, protection policies for which are included in the official plans. So far three townships have been covered, and Colborne and Goderich townships are presently being surveyed.



Exeter Town Hall 1887

Drawing by Nicholas Hill

Heritage Building Restoration:

Town Hall - Exeter

Jail - Goderich

Most communities, everywhere in Ontario, are in the throes of restoring historic building, privately and publicly. In Huron, recently much interest has been focused on the saving, restoring and re-use of the old Town Hall in Exeter. Now vacated by the municipality, the Town Hall is, beneath the shabby, peeling paint of its exterior, a very elegant and beautiful building. An LIP grant was awarded to the Exeter Heritage Foundation to commence interior restoration and the Ontario Heritage Foundation has jointly financed a comprehensive feasibility study on its future use.

The old county jail in Goderich is now open to the public (voluntarily!) and is gradually being adapted as a multi-cultural centre. Approximately 15,000 people visited the jail last year.

Huron Heritage Newsletter:

A second annual newsletter is about to be published by the Huron Branch of the ACO and sent out to members of allied societies and interest groups. \$250 was obtained from Heritage Canada to cover some of the expenses for printing, mailing, etc. Anyone wishing to have a copy should write to Dorothy Wallace, Secretary, 35 Wellington Street South, Goderich.

Summer Heritage Tours:

Last year the Huron Branch sponsored a number of bus tours to heritage homes in Goderich. This met with great success and was very profitable. In fact the revenues generated from the tours financed the winter programme of guest speakers.

This year the heritage tours programme have been put on again, but this time the emphasis was on the appreciation of rural heritage farmhouses. Accordingly the tour programme has been:

Heritage Farmhouses around Clinton - July 10 & 11.
Departing 2.00 p.m., Town Square, Clinton.

Heritage Farmhouses around Seaforth - July 17 & 18.
Departing 2.00 p.m., Town Hall, Main Street, Seaforth.

Heritage Buildings in Bayfield. July 31 & August 1.
Departing 2.00 p.m., Clangregor Square, Bayfield.

Heritage Farmhouses around Goderich. August 14 & 15. Departing 2.00 p.m., Court House Square, Goderich.

A Farmhouse tea was served on each tour with home-made refreshments.

Problems:

Every branch of the ACO will have its problems, and the main problems of the Huron Branch could be briefly put as:

- i. Operating effectively in a large geographic area.
- ii. Distance from Provincial HQ.
- iii. Finances.

Huron is some forty miles north to south and twenty miles east to west, with small towns, villages, hamlets and sixteen rural townships. Achieving a truly Huron voice in architectural conservancy is difficult to do, and at present most of the members are from Goderich, Bayfield, Clinton and area. Being remote and distant from Toronto is at once a blessing and curse!. A blessing because the County continues rural and farming and unspoilt, a curse because it is difficult for us to attend the monthly ACO meetings. Forgive me if I say that the blessings over all greatly outweigh the curses! However, we do feel uneasy about not attending the ACO Executive Meetings as often as we would like! Everybody could use a little extra money, the Huron Branch of the ACO included. We are however considering a programme of lobbying the County Council to adopt a county levy of so many cents per head of population for heritage work, as they have done in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. If we succeed this will present us with a budget to undertake ambitious heritage surveys, plans and restoration work. In the meantime we use a lot of imagination to generate revenue such as our heritage tours, which is exciting and fun.

My best wishes to all members, and come visit us in Huron anytime.

Nicholas Hill, President,
58 Elgin Avenue East, Goderich.

(Nicholas Hill has been president of the Huron Branch for two years. He is a professional Town and County Planner with an office in Goderich, specializing in Heritage Planning. He has a Masters Degree in Architecture from the University of Toronto and is in the process of registering as an architect in Ontario.)

(The Heritage House Tours were referred to in the past tense!)

Your editor regrets ACORN is not published more frequently to inform others in ACO of such prospects - ACORN needs a flyer for coming events alone).

AROUND AND ABOUT: HAPPENINGS IN ONTARIO

AMHERSTBURG:

The designation of the Gordon House, constructed before the War of 1812, was upheld by the Conservation Review Board after the hearing held on 22 April, 1976. Other buildings have been - or are being - considered for designation and the Town is looking forward to the creation of an Historic Conservation District. In investigating the NIP

(Neighbourhood Improvement Programme) area a recent preliminary survey revealed some 100 buildings in the "landmark" and "anchor" categories. A third, of landmark quality should be seriously considered for designation, the other two thirds comprising the anchors to be reviewed for such treatment and kept on file for special attention in preservation. Officials of Heritage Canada, guests at a recent meeting of Council and LACAC, expressed great interest in the findings.

AYLMER:

Through Susan Wilson of London the Elgin Historical Society of St. Thomas, Ontario reports the danger to the Aylmer Town Hall and Opera House, constructed in 1875, and vacated in late July. It seems to be one of many such buildings in towns across the province which, because of deficiencies in exits and other short-comings are too often torn down. But the tide is turning, exemplified by the preservation of the Victoria Hall theatre in Petrolia, the conversion of the old Fire Hall in Barrie, the Gravenhurst Opera House, work to start on the Orillia building and - eventually - the restoration of the Concert Hall in Cobourg's Victoria Hall.

Your support and suggestions for preservation of the Aylmer landmark to the Elgin Historical Society, (Duncan McKillop, President) 32 Talbot Street, St. Thomas, Ontario would indeed be appreciated.

BARRIE:

Architects Howard D. Chapman and Howard V. Walker, (Peter John Stokes consulting) are now engaged on working drawings and documents for the preservation of the Old Fire-hall, (built 1875, enlarged 1904). Solar energy to reduce heating costs is being considered.

BRIGHTON:

A massive revamping of the approach from the west has seen to the broadening of the pavement through the western residential section to match the commercial part - sans trees, avec curbs. No longer is there any differentiation and now it's just one long main drag. Next step - bang a hole through the end block to facilitate through traffic?

COBOURG:

Don't forget Victoria Hall (we can't!) - and in the New Year it should be occupied by the Town of Cobourg, at least in part, and again open to public view.

ELORA:

Mill Street (West), that most fascinating complex fronted by early and mid-19th century buildings and with the old mill as its focal point, is the scene of study and activity. Study concerns a scheme for improvement of the street and adjoining sidewalks and some reference to eventual treatment of buildings in the immediate area. Activity continues on the old mill to convert this to a restaurant and hotel.

The Elora Gorge controversies (note the plural) are still not settled. The proposed bridge threatening the scenic part

has been shelved, but, we understand only temporarily. One village problem, and not to be disputed, is the lack of alternate access when the main bridge in Elora is closed, for the old one leading to Mill Street West has been abandoned and perhaps should be reconsidered for pedestrians and emergency traffic only. The other controversy relates to a dam proposed near West Montrose to form reservoir for the Waterloo region. the results would be devastating scenically and agriculturally, destroying one of the areas greatest natural beauty spots by partly flooding the Gorge itself at times and inundating an enormous acreage of very productive land largely devoted to growing corn these days. There is an alternative - a pipe-line to Lake Erie, costing a little more, but with a more reliable supply of water, and in less than twenty years we have been told the extra cost could be written off. You have already read the more intimate details of these horrific schemes given by Carolyn Neal.

GUELPH:

Guelph Family Summer Campus was, by all reports, a great success. Those taking part in the talks on building preservation - From Top to Bottom - certainly kept it lively, but as always despite shorter lunches and longer sessions the subject was barely scratched. Oh! we have one other DON'T to add to our collection in addition to DON'T SANDBLAST BRICKWORK - namely DON'T SANDBLAST INTERIOR WOODWORK as we saw recently in an 1865 house originally of top quality where the owner used this process to remove old varnish and paint. (How would you like to have "Etchwood" trim?).

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE:

A photographic survey of older structures revealed some 300 buildings with the old Town of Niagara area alone. Not all, of course, are worthy of individual designation, but this complement contributes much to this town, one of the oldest urban communities in Ontario and Upper Canada's first, though temporary, capital. This leads to the only obvious conclusion: the old Town of Niagara area is certainly a suitable subject as an Historic Conservation District.

PAISLEY:

A scheme for improvement of a portion of the main street of this community near Chelsey is now being planned to include new lighting, street and sidewalk paving and tree planting. This work by the County of Bruce and the village of Paisley will be under the direction of Dr. Owen Scott, Landscape Architect and professor at the School of Landscape Architecture, University of Guelph.

PETERBOROUGH:

Restoration of the Hutchison House 1837 has commenced under the Peterborough Historical Society. Removal of later finishes has revealed the early basement kitchen of Dr. Hutchison's time with its whitewashed beams, colourwashed stone walls and wide plank floor. Apparently caught by the approaching winter and anxious to let the Hutchison family occupy the house, those helping to build it as a community enterprise colourwashed the rough scored plaster with deep

orange ochre in the south-west room, and pale cream elsewhere. When completed the ochre room was given a rich brown finish to the walls, the parlour opposite a deep green.

PICTON:

Restoration work has started on the Macaulay House, C.1827, the old Rectory, now owned by the County of Prince Edward and forming part of the museum complex which also includes the old church of St. Mary Magdalene. The building is to become an historic house display showing, substantially, the original detail and incorporating the first significant changes of the 1860's. Jeanne Minhinnick is on the Board and also serves as a s advisor on furnishings and decoration, and consultants on the building are Peter John Stokes and David J. Lane. The first part of the restoration involves the replacement of the cornice gutter and the shingling of the roof. The front verandah has been removed and the restoration of the original porch over the front door is contemplated.

SPARTA:

If you don't know where Athens, "the Centre of Culture". as one Brockvillian described it to us, is you probably cannot be expected to know where Sparta, let alone Troy, might be. Sparta, south-west of London is a fascinating village with a Greek Revival air about many of its buildings and just to the north of it a fascinating cobblestone essay dated 1872. Nearby is the Zavitz House (pictured in Rural Ontario) and a plaque to the founding of this Quaker Settlement. We wonder if local action under the Heritage Act is being taken; perhaps London could check.

STONEY CREEK:

Battlefield House, owned by the Niagara Parks Commission, has been restored and furnished to the 1830's with the Women's Wentworth Historical Society being advised by Dorothy Duncan, the building under Arthur W. Wallace, Restoration Architect. The official opening took place on 14 May, 1976.

TORONTO:

Another building goes down: the old Walker House and the Cyclorama, long a parking garage, will shortly disappear completely.

And it seems another battle to preserve the continuity of development in the city has been lost with the refusal of those concerned to consider the retention of the old Canadian Pacific Express offices and warehouses, at least a positive architectural expression and a long known quantity. It is the unpredictable unknowns which help destroy a community's sense of its own history. One wonders now if the outlook from the TD Centre towards the old Star Building would have been more fun, or Darling and Pearson's 1895 adornment at the north-west corner of Yonge and Bloor preferable to the windy shadow of No. 2 Bloor West.

Now old Parkdale Station is in danger unless it gets a last minute reprieve and old stations are particularly susceptible to demolition if alternative use cannot be made of them. Witness

the tragic loss of so many of the fine examples on the old Grand Trunk across Ontario.

Another coup de grace was delivered recently to a classic block originally of four mid-19th century houses on the east side of Church between Shuter and Dundas. Years ago the second from the north was demolished to leave an aching gap occasionally filled by chromed deposits. Then the north house emblazoned with a positively vile supergraphic of a giant fiddle (it once housed a musical instrument emporium). Now this, has been sandblasted within an inch of its life, the surface of the brickwork badly pitted and even more seriously decayed where dampness from leaking downspouts previously damaged it. Church Street used to be Toronto's parade of architectural history — 25 years ago! (And when will sandblasting be considered an alteration and therefore subject to permit and review, before more heritage structures are eroded, if not ruined?)

REVIEW:

HALLOWED WALLS: Marion MacRae, Anthony Adamson, Clarke Irwin 1975.

Since the publication of their splendid study of domestic architecture in Upper Canada, *The Ancestral Roof*, its joint authors, Marion MacRae and Anthony Adamson, have devoted six years to research on church architecture and have now published what will probably remain the definitive study of church architecture in Upper Canada, *Hallowed walls*.

Arranged by periods and styles, as: — Loyalist, Neo-Classic, Regency, Gothic, Greek, etc., it begins with the pre-historic serpent mound of the Amerindians at Rice Lake and by way of log cabin, meeting house, chapel and church carries through to the great cathedrals built in proudly growing cities just before Confederation; nor does it overlook some churches built in no particular style at all or in a light-hearted combination of styles that may have offended all the canons of architecture but pleased the congregations that worshipped in them.

Diversity of the wave after wave of immigrants who opened up our country is reflected in the diverse fabrics of the churches they built. Richer in faith and courage than in money, some groups with skilled craftsmen among them, most built their churches with their own hands and as they came, — militiamen who had received grants of land for fighting in England's wars, dispossessed Scotch crofters, Irish after the potato famine, Mennonites and other groups from Europe seeking religious freedom, Loyalists from New England — all brought their cherished traditions with them, traditions which they had no intention of abandoning, and built their churches in the styles and as far as possible with the materials of their homelands. And so we have early square churches built by militiamen whose experience had been with building block-houses, large and small stone churches built by Scotch Presbyterian masons (who believed that a kirk not built of stone was no kirk at all) and many of the steepled, white clapboard churches at home in New England.

The strong faith which led these early settlers to build their churches as a first step to settling in their new land was held by characters who were necessarily strong and it is not to be assumed that the lovely and serene interiors of some of our early churches were achieved in unvarying peace and amity. Many sidelights gleaned from the church records which the

authors searched through add immeasurably to the interest of the book. In the building of one church a high-handed, autocratic bishop and a cantankerous and equally strongminded builder held differing views in proper construction and carried on a running battle which almost brought the whole project to a stop; and what would lead the building committee working in a replacement for St. James' Cathedral in Toronto, gutted by fire for the second time, to choose as a committee of three to decide between architects' plans, two prominent citizens who were known to be arch-enemies and thoughtfully add another (innocent?) man to act as buffer in the battles that were sure to follow? (Ed. note: Perhaps we have the answer — *The Church of England?*)

Curiosities there are too. For instance in Old St. Thomas' Church in St. Thomas there is a gallery which had seating but no access to it (there is an explanation as curious as the fact); and St. Peter's, Cobourg, which at the insistence of the vestry, was built around the existing church it was to replace, this to continue in use until its overcoat was completed and only then to be removed.

The collaborators in the book are eminently qualified to deal with their subject. Miss MacRae is an instructor in Design and Museum Research at the Ontario College of Art and a visiting instructor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Toronto. In addition to the *Ancestral Roof*, written in collaboration with Dr. Adamson, she has published *MacNab of Dundurn*. Anthony Adamson, FRAIC, is a well-known restoration architect, conservationist and town planner, has recently been made an Officer of the Order of Canada and is the author of *The Gaiety of Gables*.

Hallowed walls, apart from the interest of its contents, is in itself a handsome piece of book-design, set in a pleasant type and with almost every page illumined by Dr. Adamson's drawings of sections, elevations, floor and seating plans and with beautiful photographs, almost all by Page Toles and all beautifully reproduced. It has a useful glossary of architectural terms for the non-professional reader, a good index and several supplementary pages of Dr. Adamson's drawings showing details of doors, windows, pew ends, the interlacing of window bars, etc., and illustrating a brief history of the development of church buildings.

Altogether *Hallowed walls* is at once a thoroughly researched and so detailed as to provide a reference authority for the professional and so engagingly presented that it will lure the average reader from page to page and leave him (her?) with heightened awareness of the builders behind the buildings and more perceptive eyes to turn on them.

Kathleen Elliott

ENCOURAGING NOTES from the Ontario Heritage Foundation

ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION ASSISTANCE:

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is to spend up to \$10,000 for the restoration, repair and re-decorating of the *Field House* on the Niagara River Parkway south of Queenston.

The Essex Region Conservation Authority is the recipient of an Ontario Heritage Foundation grant of \$15,000 for the restoration of the Park House, an 1830 Greek Revival House, with Arthur W. Wallace as Consultant.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is assisting *Heritage Ottawa* with a grant of \$7,200 with a special summer project

involving the identification, evaluation and cataloguing of architectural records in private collections in Ottawa. This project will include architects who were active in Ottawa up until 1939. Copies of the final report will be deposited in the Ontario Archives as well as in the Public Archives of Canada.

On site photography was undertaken during the recent demolition of the John G. Howard designed Lunatic Asylum (999) Toronto. The photographic record, commissioned by the Ontario Heritage Foundation and prepared by R. I. Mitchell, consultant and photography, in co-operation with the Christl-Silva Photographers, is now in the Ontario Archives.

The Committee for the Preservation of the Water Tower in the Village of *Barry's Bay* has been awarded a grant of \$1,000, to assist with the stabilization and restoration of one of the remaining timber frame railway water towers in the Province.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is providing a grant up to \$200,000, to the *City of Hamilton* with the purchase and restoration of Sandford Place, a stone terrace of four houses built c.1857. Once restored, the City intends to offer them for sale with protective covenants and easements. The Ontario Heritage Foundation has stipulated that any profits from the sale of the houses are not to be returned to the Foundation but placed in a special reserve fund to be re-used on other similar projects.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation has awarded a grant of up to \$25,000, to the *City of Orillia* for Phase I of the restoration of the Opera House.

EXPERIENCE '76

The Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees of 15 Ontario municipalities have been granted the help of summer students under Programme 57 of Experience '76.

Most Committees are using their assigned students to photograph and prepare architectural descriptions of properties prior to their designation. This is the case in Almonte, Amherstburg, Mississauga, Markham, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls, Seaford, Scarborough and Windsor.

If time allows, students in Hamilton and Etobicoke will undertake additional tasks. Etobicoke would like a portfolio compiled of slides of properties which may be considered for designation in the future. Hamilton would like to prepare brief publications dealing with designated buildings and potential Heritage Conservation Districts.

Students in the remaining municipalities are involved with special projects. One student is working with a Local Architectural Advisory Committee in the preparation of official plan provisions for a Heritage Conservation District in the Town of Petrolia. As part of the City of Ottawa's inventory of historic buildings, one Experience '76 student is investigating the basic legal documentation of selected structures.

Both London and Peterborough Committees are seeking to increase citizen and local government awareness of heritage properties. In Peterborough, a general listing of buildings of architectural and historical importance is being compiled in brochure form, and London's student is preparing a slide programme as part of that Committee's efforts to increase public awareness of London's architectural heritage.

John Blumenson

MARGINALIA:

The SSAC (Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada) seeks any documentation in connection with buildings including sketch plans, cost estimates, working drawings, specifications, presentation drawings and other categories of documents. (This last presumably refers also to our "hot" memos which occasionally pop out of old files, or shelf-stale reports pigeon-holed in the file rooms of bureaucracies). The need is obvious, these are invaluable records for preservation, and should be deposited in archives available to anyone needing them in future. Some concern is voiced for preserving documents of the 20th century to avoid the sad loss of 19th century material now so hard to find and always scarcer because copying techniques were so laborious and costly. So the cooperation of architects in particular is being sought, and even if the originals have been destroyed a copy is still a valuable help and worthy of safekeeping.

Hansard for Wednesday, 16 June, 1976 reports on page 3397 that the Hon. Mrs. Scrivener announced the appointment of Prof. Eric R. Arthur as architectural consultant to the legislative building to be retained through the Ministry of Government Services by the Ontario Government. The distinguished career of this founder of the ACO was alluded to by the Minister and the deference and respect expressed for him should augur well for his counsel.

A note on Legislation from the London Architectural and Historic Preservation Report 29 April, 1976 by Evelyn Crooks reads:

"*Legislation* — There are obvious weaknesses in the Ontario Act. It is strongly recommended that the Urban League study the Act and the "Brown paper on Heritage Legislation" prepared by Heritage Canada. A study should also be made of local by-laws that may be obstacles to aesthetic considerations eg. parking requirements and fire code regulations. Inadequate maintenance of older buildings and lack of demolition control continue to be problems. In short the work cannot all be done by the LACA committee."

(To which we add that too little study and application has been devoted to the machinery and procedures for dealing with applications for restoration, alteration and addition for designated buildings, or for infilling, extension to buildings, old and modern, or preservation practices in Historic Conservation Districts. The prospects might inhibit the process permitted by the legislation, considered by us to be the most liberal in the country if fully interpreted despite its conservative inauguration. Studies jointly sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation (extending perhaps Experience '76) and Heritage Canada might melt the gathering ice before the movement becomes frozen by its own immobility.)

Then Evelyn Crooks continues under the heading *Public Participation*: "There is still great need for community associations and other organizations, such as the Architectural Conservancy, and for concerned individuals, to continue to be involved. Their particular contributions may greatly increase public understanding and awareness of the importance of heritage conservation. There is great need for attention to concrete practical proposals for uses of buildings we wish to save, and for consideration of the establishment of a private Trust Fund, such as the Frontenac Historic Foundation in

Kingston. Recommendations on legislation should be made to all levels of government. If sufficient attention is not given to these aspects of a conservation programme, there is grave danger that we are going to accumulate a great deal of historical data, but end up by saving very little. Heritage Canada attaches great importance to the principle of citizen involvement in proposing and evaluating heritage property. To quote "We do not underestimate the role of experts, but since ultimately personal judgments are involved, a wide spectrum of advice is desirable". It stresses "varying approaches to evaluation of heritage".

Finally mentioning *Conservation of Areas* Evelyn Crooks concludes: "We continue to urge support for the recognition of the importance of saving, not only individual buildings of importance, but for the conservation of groups of buildings, streetscapes and significant portions of early neighbourhoods. It is most important that full consideration be given to ways of achieving this in the preparation of Secondary District Plans. Heritage Canada has taken as its main goal the conservation of areas and has placed a priority on the acquisition of landscape."

The *Advisory Board of ACO* is in being, but not on active duty yet. The problem revolves around considerations of liability for the ACO and professional conflicts of interest. It took John Caulfield Smith to cross the threshold of impossibility, it needs his spirit to breathe life into it again.

Another sadness since our last Acorn was the death of Margaret Home, long a supporter of ACO activities and engaged in many preservation activities. She is remembered for her association with the Jordan Museum of the Twenties. But Margaret Home's death brings to mind again Ruth Home, her equally renowned sister who died some years ago. Ruth Home had a distinguished career in the museum field too and finally created the museum of transportation at Upper Canada Village before her death. It was Ruth perhaps, in her forthright and expressive way who literally converted the pumpkin of the Seaway preservation into the coach of Upper Canada Village by voicing her alarm in so telling a manner that a scheme for two log cabins and a 1910 church took on the complexion of the historic complex evolved by Anthony Admason. Many forget the part played by individuals in great decisions: Ruth Home did much to win the battle.

Susan Wilson of London passed on to us an interesting article in the *Illustrated London News* published in 1975 about the growing number and popularity of "Town trails", guided or with guidebook in hand, around urban centres with architectural and townscape interest. It seems our own practice, and that of the ACO Branches has come somewhat later to the British scene where a plethora of fascinating material surely exists. If anyone is interested in comparing the British approach with our own, *Britain: Town Trails* at 38 p. (post free in Britain) is available from the British Tourist Authority, 64 St. James' Street, London, SW1 1 NF, Make a Trail so that others can take a Trail (free from National Council of Social Service), 26 Bedford Square, London WC1 B 3HU, but enclose a self addressed foolscap envelope with British stamps if possible!) and *Urban Walks and Town Trails*, Research Memorandum No. 40, by Brian Goodey £1.50 from the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University of Birmingham, Selly Wick House, Selly Wick Road, Birmingham, B 29 7JF.

The article includes references to Birmingham, Bristol, Salford, Leicester, Oxford, the Pennine village of Heptonstall (this with a telling reference and reaction to over-exposure through television which might give heart to people in old Niagara), Faversham, the Derwent Valley communities of Derbyshire and Nottingham.

Mrs. A. B. (Audrey) Scott writing to Mrs. Anne Jones, the Chairman of the Regional Municipality of Hamilton – Wentworth on 17 June, 1976 reports on the fate of old buildings in the Corktown area of Hamilton thus:

"In the process of compiling evaluation statistics, the following facts have become apparent; (figures are as close as approximation as possible since new demolitions are taking place constantly) . . . close to ½ of the best structures in Corktown area have been demolished in the past five years; ¼ of the next category of extremely worthy structures have come down in a similar period of time. 1/3 of the buildings dated before 1850 by the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings Survey in Corktown have come down, while at least 130 of the structures on the list in the area are down. Twelve of the best streetsides or neighbourhood groupings have been destroyed (significant sociologically as well as architecturally)."

This is a distressing record indeed needing immediate action to arrest this destructive decay of an inner city neighbourhood. It behoves the ACO Hamilton Branch and like-minded groups to support the efforts towards worthwhile preservation in the City and promote this with any authorities concerned.

A copy of the Proposal for the Organization of a Society for the Preservation of Early Architecture and Places of Natural Beauty in Ontario dated October 1932 and featuring as the centre of its cover a medallion encircling a drawing of St. Andrew's, Niagara has just come into our hands. This contains the text of the Proposal, a List of Buildings (noted as already photographed or measured) and a list of persons to whom the circular was sent; with the names of their communities attached. This led to the founding of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario the following year.

COMING EVENTS:

ACO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: First proposed for Saturday, 11 September, 1976, Laidlaw Hall, Upper Canada College, Toronto, the date may be moved to early October because of the conflict with the Kingston Symposium. Watch your mail for further details.

9-12 September 1976: NEW LIFE FOR OLD BUILDINGS: Kingston Symposium sponsored by Frontenac Historic Foundation, Heritage Canada and the Ontario Heritage Foundation, to be held at the Donald Gordon Centre for Continuing Education, Queen's University.

18 September 1976 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. COBOURG HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR organized by the Women's Committee of the Society for the Restoration of Victoria Hall. Proceeds in aid of the Hall project. Tickets \$3.50 per person. Snack Lunch at St. Peter's Church Hall (King Street East) 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. \$1.50.

29 September to 3 October 1976 APT ANNUAL CONFERENCE Hamilton/Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Association for Preservation Technology conducts a lively conference on numerous preservation subjects concerning techniques and procedures related to community problems at the scene of a burgeoning industrial city and a small historic town being racked by the pressures of tourism. Registration from 29 September, post conference tours on 3 October.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:

The Old House Journal, published from October 1973, monthly. A periodical full of useful hints gathered from many contributors, some who have experimented in novel ways with success (the failures don't get published!). Also mentioned are buildings and materials for sale, sources of hard-to-find paraphernalia like "tin" ceilings (have you ever tried to match one?) Vol. iv, No. 4 for April 1976 has a very interesting and informative article on making mouldings authentically — by hand. Subscription \$12.00 per year from The Old House Journal, Dept. 7, 199 Berkeley Place, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217.

Preservation and Conservation, Principles and Practices, The Preservation Press, Washington, D.C. 1976. This is the publication of the proceedings of the North American International Regional Conference, Williamsburg, Virginia and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 10-16 September, 1972, conducted under the auspices of the International Centre for Conservation, Rome, Italy and the International Centre Committee of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and edited by Sharon Timmons (543 pages, some contributions illustrated). This edition contains fascinating discussions of the philosophies of preservation such as George McCue's contribution — Preservation at the Cutting Edge of Appreciation, as well as many very informative technical articles. Copies are available at \$15.00 (U.S.) (including mailing charges) from the Preservation Bookstore, 740-748 Jackson Place N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, U.S.A.

Discover Your Neighbourhood Heritage by Ian Scott, published by Learnx Press Education Centre, 155 College Street, Toronto, Ontario. M5T 1P6. This is a kit comprising a folder, the booklet "Ontario Historic Sites, Museums, Galleries and Plaques" published by the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Ontario Archives, Visitors Information Brochure, Toronto Board of Education "Historical Collection (Archives)" fact sheet and the publication *Discover Your Neighbourhood Heritage*. The last is an exploration of ways and means, indications of source material and a useful bibliography although this seems a little deficient in the Architecture section. However, it does state in the introduction that Toronto is the model.

The People of Hamilton, Canada West, Family and Class in a mid-19th Century City, Michael B. Katz, Harvard University Press, 1975. Facts and figures have been interpreted with the help of a computer to develop patterns of social complexities and work underlying the development of early Hamilton. Although much of the statistical information is useful in filling in the background, this part of the book may be considered a little dry by some.

Victorian Cobourg — A Nineteenth Century Profile, J. Petryshyn, Editor-in-chief with associate editors D. M. Calnan, T. W. Crossen and L. Dzubak, Mika Publishing Company 1976. This is indeed a profile with contributions from a number of writers on various subjects topical to Cobourg including its historical personalities, Cockburn, Weller and Ruttan, its fortunes and misfortunes such as the Cobourg-Peterborough Railway and a reprint of Edwin C. Guillet's article on the Cobourg Conspiracy.

ACORN I-3 Fall is planned for publication early in November 1976, if funds permit.

Contributions should be sent to Peter John Stokes, 244 King Street, Box 170, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, *clearly marked ACORN* so that these receive prompt attention, to arrive no later than 8 October, 1976. and preferably sooner. Last minute news can be sent as a postscript to be added under STOP PRESS.

Au revoir until later this year.

Peter John Stokes

P.S. Haynes Printing (Cobourg) Limited produced our first Acorn, with great success, and we have trusted them, confidently, with the second.

P.J.S.

STOP PRESS:

The ACO Annual General Meeting has been changed to 8:00 p.m. Friday, 22nd October, 1976 at Laidlaw Hall, Upper Canada College. A tour of the buildings and grounds will be arranged before the meeting. The new date is to take advantage of the following day's activities, (Saturday 23rd, October) with the release of the Rosedale Survey, walking tours and other events planned by ACO Toronto Branch, so plan to stay the night or the weekend in Toronto (local hotels need your patronage!). Watch your mail for further details.

(To reach Upper Canada College take the Yonge subway to St. Clair Station and transfer directly (no transfer slip required) to the Forest Hill bus which goes right past the College door).

Victoria Hall, now being preserved on its original site, is considered to be the gateway to the lakefront from Cobourg's main business street, King. However the town of Cobourg is under the threat of a writ of mandamus for not allowing an asphalt plant to locate on its waterfront. Such development is being questioned: your opinion can be expressed directly to the Council of the Town of Cobourg by writing to Mr. B. W. Baxter, Clerk-Administrator, 107 King Street West, Cobourg, Ontario. Your letter might help guide the appropriate development of Cobourg's presently open waterfront and make the best decision for the future.

COMING EVENTS:

Saturday, 25th September 1976 - 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Oakville: Autumn House Tour (For adults only).

Sponsored by the Oakville Historical Society and Women's Auxiliary.

Tickets: House Tour \$5.00

Luncheon, Oakville Club \$4.00 or

Sandwich Factory Lunch at St. Jude's Church Hall,
160 William - \$1.50

IN KINGSTON
A-1 Ontario Trust
A-2 Empire Life
A-3 Victoria & Grey



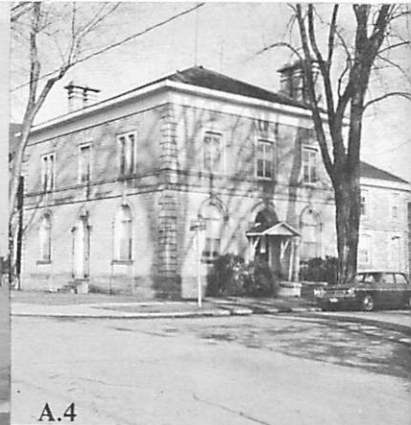
A.1



A.2



A.3



A.4

BANKS THAT GOT AWAY
A-4 Perth
A-5 Port Hope

SEE ONTARIO TOWNS
PLATE 98

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA
D-1 Port Hope
D-2 Kingston
D-3 Cobourg

Walton Street. Port Hope,
TD Bank near centre

A.5

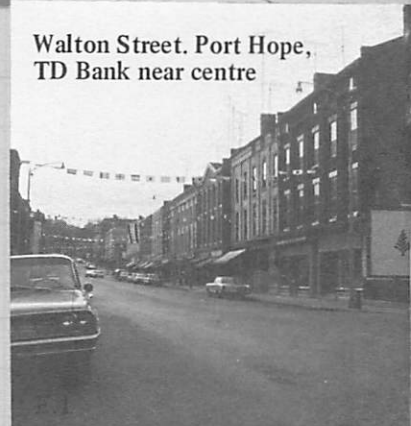
See NO MEAN CITY, Plate
107 for the prototype of
early Banks of Montreal
& the predecessor of B-3

C.1

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA
C.1 Fergus
C.2 Port Hope
C.3 Bath

D.1

See THE OLD STONES OF
KINGSTON Page 33



TORONTO DOMINION BANK
E.1 Port Hope
E.2 Guelph
E.3 Yonge Street,
Toronto (far left)

B.1



B.2

C.2



C.3

D.2

Tea - with sympathy -
and perhaps a little
too much sugar

E.2

I dreamt I dealt in
marble halls - until
I saw my bank account!

BANK OF MONTREAL
B-1 Bowmanville
B-3 Guelph
B-3 Yonge & Front,
Toronto

If it's plate - make a
feature of it

D.3

E.3

CANADIAN IMPERIAL
BANK OF COMMERCE
F.1 Niagara-on-the-Lake
F.2 Cobourg
F.3 Cambridge (Galt)

B.3

F.1

F.2

F.3

